

# The Seafarer

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## DSCP Announces Prime Vendor Portal

- Not sure who your Prime Vendor is for a particular commodity?
- Tired of entering multiple websites to place your orders?
- Are you looking to take advantage of the web to increase efficiency in your ordering process?

The General and Industrial Directorate of the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP) has developed a web portal which allows our customers to access all of their prime vendors through one common entry point with one login and password. This portal directs customers to their designated prime vendors, allowing customers to shop across their prime vendors, and to fill a common integrated shopping cart.

The URL portal [www. HOPDLA.com](http://www.HOPDLA.com) will be available throughout the country. Training is provided via an online user's guide or a customer visit can be arranged for any potential user of the new system. This portal is the first step to provide total integrated support as we are working on several initiatives to improve the ordering process, including providing order information for customer legacy systems. To become a user, go to the site for registration information or contact the help line @ 1-877-746-7352.

## *DSCP Shoots Marketing Film at FISC*

# Lights, Camera, Action



On Wednesday, December 12, 2001, representatives from the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP), DSCP Directorate of Subsistence, came to the Fleet & Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Norfolk and the Norfolk Naval Shipyard to film FISC personnel ordering food for the Navy Ships home ported in Norfolk. The DLA/DSCP team, Lt Frankie J. Hand, SC, USN, Nutan Chada, Frank Johnson, Carol Madonna, and Gina Cimino met with Jerry Dysick, Director, STORES-NT, FISC and his staff to coordinate the filming.

DSCP's Directorate of Subsistence is in the process of producing a Marketing Video and wanted to showcase the FISC team at work. DSCP was most impressed with the outstanding staff at FISC and expressed their gratitude with the hospitality and time given in assisting with this project. "I was very impressed with the dedication and commitment exhibited by the FISC staff in supporting the delivery of food to all sailors, said Lt. Hand.

The film is currently in production and will be released for viewing at the Subsistence Worldwide Customer Conference being held in April 2002 in Washington, D.C.

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# A change in direction for NAVSUP

“The new NAVSUP Strategic Plan represents a change in direction for NAVSUP; a rebalancing between our focus on business practices and our focus on war fighter support,” said Rear Admiral Justin D. McCarthy, commander of the Naval Supply Systems Command and Chief of Supply Corps, introducing the revised strategic plan to the NAVSUP organization.

McCarthy noted that the NAVSUP mission and vision remain the same, but the goals were revised to align the command more closely with the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations’ priorities and to be responsive to the needs of NAVSUP’s stakeholders.

“It is important that we all understand the basis for our change in direction and how the goals, strategies and objectives support that change,” McCarthy noted. “Our scope has also increased to include Joint issues. This plan is the product of two months of identifying and assessing the changes taking place in the world around us with our stakeholders.”

“At its highest level, the Strategic Plan forms a corporate statement of what we are about, what we value and what we feel is the direction we need to head in supporting our operating forces and other customers,” he said. “At its lowest level, the plan provides specific guidance on initiatives we are undertaking to move us forward in achieving the stated goals. Our supply team should be able to read through the document and see the linkage between the goals, strategies and objectives, as well as see how what they are doing fits into the overall priorities of our Strategic Plan.”

A key effort in support of the strategic plan is the initiative to reinforce a single enterprise identity for NAVSUP. During stakeholders advisory group meetings NAVSUP’s customers and suppliers said they saw the command as a loose confederation of specialized activities, and they said they preferred to deal with NAVSUP as a single corporation. This led to the NAVSUP branding initiative.



McCarthy said, “We need to build on the power of the team. There is tremendous goodwill out there from individual customers who have experienced excellent support from members of the team. We need to make that credibility work for the entire enterprise. How do we do that? The most visible way is through a branding initiative.”

The branding initiative consists of four key elements: a unique value proposition, a new command logo, a style guide and a communications plan.

The unique value proposition is three words, Ready. Resourceful. Responsive!” that describe what NAVSUP is all about and how the command aspires to be viewed by its customers.

The new logo brings NAVSUP Headquarters and its 13 field activities together under a single image, where previously there had been 14 separate logos. McCarthy noted that the logo contains several components that communicate the command’s purpose. The italicized look of “NAVSUP” indicates that the organization is always Ready to serve, prepared at all times and positioned as a forward-thinking and forward-moving organization. The hardware components of the logo convey that the organization is a military one and represent the three major warfare communities of the United States Naval operational forces - air, surface, and

submarine. NAVSUP is Resourceful in that it supports all facets of Naval operations, and it brings innovative solutions to the table to meet or exceed our customer expectations.

The bulls-eye represents that NAVSUP is on target and Responsive in providing timely solutions to customer requirements.” It also signifies that NAVSUP is at the center of Naval Supply operations. The communications plan provides guidance on messages to communicate NAVSUP’s vision and purpose to multiple audiences.

The NAVSUP Strategic Plan is a living document. It forms a stable framework for action while at the same time remaining flexible enough to adapt to what is learned along the way as the command pursues its objectives. The Strategic Plan is posted on the NAVSUP Web site ([www.navsup.navy.mil](http://www.navsup.navy.mil)).

“I believe our new Strategic Plan reflects our purpose of delivering combat capability through logistics,” McCarthy said. “The NAVSUP leadership, our stakeholders and customers were all key players in creating this plan and the final product is truly an enterprise-wide effort. This same enterprise-wide effort will be required to execute the plan. I look forward to working with the Navy supply team as we do so.”

# Mail Backlog Causing Delivery Delays to Federal Activities in Washington, D.C

On October 23, 2001, the United States Postal Service (USPS) closed the Washington, D.C. Brentwood mail facility due to bio-contamination. That facility was the entry point for mail and packages addressed to federal government activities in Washington, D.C. with Zip Codes between 20200 and 20599. As a result, Navy and Marine Corps activities serviced directly or indirectly by the Brentwood facility had their regular mail delivery disrupted for over a month. There is a significant backlog of federal government mail for DC addresses which may take at least two months to clear out. To cite just one example, Recruiter of

the Year packages are still somewhere in the backlog so other means were used to complete this process.



Navy activities outside the national capital region that need to send time-sensitive information or material to Navy or Marine Corps activities with DC Zip Codes between 20200 and 20599 should use non-USPS means such as FEDEX, UPS, email or fax until notified via NAVADMIN that the flow of mail is back on track.

The bottom line is that, if your command has sent any sort of mail to OPNAV that requires action, you should follow up by

other means (e.g. telephone, fax, or email) to verify it has been received.

The Point of Contact (POC) for Washington, D.C. mail delivery questions is Ernest Terry, Director of the Navy Consolidated Mail Handling Facility, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Norfolk, Detachment Washington at commercial 202-685-0901 or email at [ernest\\_1\\_terry@navsup.navy.mil](mailto:ernest_1_terry@navsup.navy.mil).

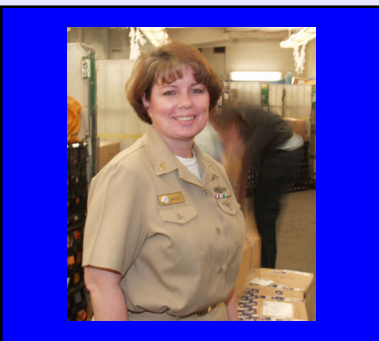
## Trainig Guide Available From RNMC Website

The Regional Navy Mail Center has posted on the web site ([www.nor.fisc.navy.mil](http://www.nor.fisc.navy.mil)) a training guide dealing with the identification of suspicious mail and some procedures on how to handle. Also available is a seven minute video produced by the USPS dealing with biological threats and the U.S. mail. Commands may request to check out a copy of the video for showing.

## LANTFLEET Postal Advisory & Assistance moves to FISC's RNMC



*PCCS Jeff Gibbs*



*PCC Robbin Santos*

On 23 November 2001, an agreement was signed between RADM Soderberg, CLF Supply Logistics, and CAPT Kowba, Commanding Officer, FISC, Norfolk to transfer the CLF Fleet Postal Advisory and Assistance functions under the Regional Navy Mail Center. Effective 17 December, 2001, PCCS Jeff Gibbs and PCC Robbin Santos, currently the Fleet Assistance team will officially become part of the Regional Navy Mail Center family. The CLF Postal officer, PCCM Rick Buchart will remain as part of the CLF staff and will have functional responsibility for the program. PCCM Buchart will be issuing an official message the week of 10 December notifying everyone of the transfer. These changes were deemed necessary to allow for improving assistance and training to all Atlantic Fleet units, and develop some much needed new programs and services.

PCCS Gibbs will be located at the Regional Navy Mail Center main office located at 9225 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Bldg. U132. PCCS Gibbs new phone number will be 444-7203/7437 Ext 12, cell phone 544-1404, Fax number 444-9796. Regional Navy Mail Center message address is: FISC NORFOLK VA//308//. PCCS Gibbs' new E-mail address will be published as soon as possible. You may continue to reach PCCS at his current CLF e-mail address until further notice.

PCC Robbin Santos will be located at the Regional Navy Mail Center Branch office located in Bldg. W313. PCC Santos will remain at this site until renovations at U132 are completed and all Naval Station Postal functions are moved. PCC Santos can be reached at 445-7888/1925, fax number 445-4263. An e-mail address for PCC Santos will be published as soon as possible.



# Navy Blue Angels 2002 Show Schedule

The Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, has announced its show schedule for the 2002 show season. The team is scheduled to begin its season on March 9, 2002 and conclude on November 9, 2002. The Blue Angels are scheduled to perform in 70 shows at 36 locations in the United States and Canada during the 2002 season. A Blue Angels air demonstration is a mix of formation flying and solo routines using F/A-18 Hornets.

The pilots perform approximately 30 maneuvers during the aerial demonstration, which runs approximately an hour and 15

minutes. Performances greatly assist the recruiting and retention goals of the military services, enhance esprit de corps among uniformed men and women, as well as demonstrate the professional skills and capabilities of the armed forces to the American public and U.S. Allies. More information about the Blue Angels is available on the official Website or by calling Navy Cmdr. Anthony Cooper, public affairs officer for the Chief of Naval Education and Training, at (850) 452-4860.

## Date

## Location

Jan. 2-Mar. 8	(Pre-season training at NAF El Centro, Calif.)
March 9	Opening Show, NAF El Centro, CA
March 16-17	Mesa, AZ
March 23-24	Tyndall Air Force Base, FL
April 6-7	Naval Air Station Kingsville, TX
April 13-14	Blountville, TN
April 20-21	Bay St. Louis, MI
April 27-28	Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, SC
May 4-5	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
May 11-12	NAS Joint Reserve Base Ft. Worth, TX
May 18-19	Andrews Air Force Base, MD
May 22 & 24	US Naval Academy (USNA), Annapolis, MD
May 25-26	McGuire Air Force Base, NJ
June 1-2	Little Rock Air Force Base, AZ
June 8-9	Fargo, ND
June 15-16	Oklahoma City, OK
June 22-23	Rochester, NY
June 29-30	London, Ontario, Canada
July 6-7	Traverse City, MI
July 12-13	Pensacola Beach, FL
July 20-21	Helena, MT
July 27-28	Point Mugu, CA
August 3-4	Seattle, WA
August 17-18	Chicago, IL
August 24-25	Offutt Air Force Base, NE
August 31	St. Louis, MO
September 1-2	St. Louis, MO
September 7-8	Toledo, OH
September 14-15	McConnell Air Force Base, KS
September 21-22	Naval Air Station Oceana, VA
September 28-29	Augusta, GA
October 5-6	Salinas, CA
October 12-13	San Francisco, CA
October 19-20	Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, CA
October 26-27	NAS Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, LA
November 2-3	Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL
November 8-9	Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL



# SuperSERVMART

## **EG&G Donates \$10,000 to Pentagon Assistance**

EG&G Technical Services, Inc., the contract manager of FISC's Super SERVMART, celebrated its second year of business recently. At a ceremony marking the date and in appreciation for those who serve the defense of the United States, EG&G donated \$10,000 to the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society's Pentagon Assistance Fund. Capt. Bill Kowba, FISC Norfolk's commanding officer, accepted the check on behalf of the Navy.

## **Puppy Sponsored in Name of VIB**

EG&G Technical Services, Inc., in partnership with the Virginia Industries for the Blind (VIB), operates and manages the Super SERVMART for Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Norfolk aboard the Norfolk Naval Station. In recognition of the outstanding performance by VIB during the month of September 2001, EG&G donated \$1,500 for a "Puppy Sponsorship" to the Southeast Guide Dog, Inc. The money will help provide the necessary training for a guide dog.

## **New Regs Affecting Non-Foreign Area**

The Office of Personnel Management recently issued new regulations in the Federal Register affecting the non-foreign area cost-of-living allowance program. The regulations propose wide-ranging changes to the COLA methodology and abolish the commissary and exchange rate in Guam among other proposed changes.

The U.S. Government pays cost-of-living allowances (COLAs) to white-collar civilian federal employees in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. About 44,000 employees, including U.S. Postal Service employees, receive these non-foreign area COLAs. Section 5941 of title 5, United States Code, and Executive Order 10000 (as amended) authorize the payment of COLAs in non-foreign areas.

To set the COLA rates, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) surveys the prices of over 200 items, including goods and services, housing, transportation, and miscellaneous expenses. OPM conducts these surveys in each of the allowance areas and in the Washington, D.C. area. To see the proposed changes, visit the OPM web site at [www.opm.gov/oca/cola/](http://www.opm.gov/oca/cola/).

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Bob Stump (R-AZ) has announced that conferees have reached agreement on the conference report to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (S. 1438). The report is said to accomplish three goals: support U.S. military personnel through improved pay and benefits, restore U.S. military readiness, and boost efforts to defend the American homeland from terrorism and ballistic missile attack. The report provides the largest single-year increase to defense spending since the early 1980s. It boosts funding for programs to combat terrorism and defeat weapons of mass destruction, provides a significant military pay raise, substantially increases critical readiness accounts, and revitalizes efforts to research tomorrow's weapons and equipment even while providing the weapons and equipment the U.S. military needs today.

## **Disney's "Armed Forces Salute"**

To honor members of the U.S. Armed Forces, the Disneyland Resort and the Walt Disney World Resort recently extended to active-duty military personnel, complimentary admission into Disney theme parks. This includes ticket discounts for family members and friends.

"Disney's Armed Forces Salute" will be offered from Jan. 1 through April 30, 2002, by the Disneyland Resort in California and the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida.

Each active member of the U.S. military may obtain a complimentary seven-day ticket during the offer period. This ticket, specifically created for "Disney's Armed Forces Salute," will be valid for admission into the four Walt Disney World theme parks, a Disney water park, Pleasure Island and more for seven days from the date issued. For more information on this offer, call (714) 782-4565.

## **Safety Center Celebrates 50 years of Service from NAVSTA**

The Naval Safety Center (NSC) is celebrating its first half-century of doing business this year. For the past 50 years, NSC has been an essential part of naval readiness.

Headquartered at Naval Station Norfolk, NSC provides support to more than 4,200 commands and detachments worldwide. It maintains a computerized repository for reports on injuries, occupational illnesses and property damage. It is the Navy and Marine Corps' "one-stop safety shop" that gathers information from the fleet, then analyzes and interprets data to help military and civilians develop programs on safety awareness and prevention.

# Navy Instructors Train Civilian Police in Chemical-Biological Warfare Defense

*By Chief Journalist Rhonda Burke and Matt Mogle*

Staff members of the Damage Controlman "A" School at Naval Training Center, Great Lakes Service School Command, are taking their school house on the road to teach civilian law enforcement personnel how to identify biological warfare hazards, limit exposure and decontaminate areas exposed to chemical or biological hazards.

The instructors, led by Senior Chief Damage Controlman (SW) Joe Curtin, traveled to Country Club Hills in south suburban Chicago Dec. 17, to teach a six-hour workshop on chemical, biological and radiological warfare to 33 officers of the South Suburban Emergency Response Team. The initiative is being sponsored by the Navy as part of the homeland defense mission that all civilian law enforcement members and military personnel have been charged with since the events of Sept. 11. "We have reached out to law enforcement agencies in the Chicago area to offer this training," said Curtin. "We put together the course for several reasons, the most obvious being the massive benefit to the civilian population with the current state of our nation. It is a good opportunity to share information with our civilian counterparts."

Damage controlmen are the Navy's experts in firefighting and emergency response, including training Navy personnel on chemical, biological and radiological warfare defense measures. During their training, they are taught how to counteract chemical agents, and are instructed in personal protection against biological and radiological hazards. "It is a great opportunity for us to receive this training from experts in the Navy," said Police Lt. Daniel Martin of the South Suburban Emergency Response Team, who worked with the Navy to set up the training session. "After Sept. 11, we felt that this training was very important to our team and it's great the Navy can support us."

The training session was the first of its kind offered by the Navy personnel. The training has been made available to other departments in the Chicago area as well. In addition to Curtin, other staff members from the Navy's Damage Control "A" School at Great Lakes, including Chief Damage Controlman (SW) Thomas Tangwell, Chief Hospital Corpsman (SW) Eric Hruska and Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW) Keone Kaaihue, participated in the training. Many of the DC School instructors volunteer their time working with local law enforcement and fire departments.

## MTMC Freight Training Workshop scheduled

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (USTCNS) --- Operations and cargo movement specialists with the Department of Defense have an opportunity to improve their work skills.

A freight-training workshop, sponsored by the Military Traffic Management Command, will be held Jan. 14-17 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, Hampton, Va.

The goal of the workshop is to provide hands-on training for military transporters, said Jack McAveney, coordinator.

"We are providing a comprehensive forum for the exchange of information, ideas and possible solutions to a wide range of complex transportation issues and challenges," said McAveney. "The workshop is a hands-on opportunity for transportation functional area managers to interact within their peers and counterparts."

Workshop training sessions will include such subjects as freight routing, carrier performance, surface negotiations, spot bids and prepayment audit/cost questions. MTMC systems that will be discussed include Global Freight Management, Integrated Booking System and the PowerTrack automated payment system.

Additional information is available from Jack McAveney, MTMC Fort Eustis, at (757) 878-7478, DSN 927-7478 or [mcaveneyj@mtmc.army.mil](mailto:mcaveneyj@mtmc.army.mil)

## Combat Zone Tax Break Announced by Department of Defense

Service members in Afghanistan will receive significant tax breaks as a result of an executive order signed by the president. Effective September 19 (the day troops first started deploying for Operation Enduring Freedom), the combat zone tax exclusion applies to service in Afghanistan and the airspace above it.

Service members directly supporting operations in Afghanistan from other locations are also eligible if they are receiving imminent danger pay or hostile fire pay. As a result of the order, enlisted service members and warrant officers will pay no federal income tax on all basic pay and special pay. Officers will pay tax only on that portion of their pay that exceeds the highest enlisted pay plus the \$150 imminent danger pay, a figure currently set at \$5,043.

Eligible service members also receive an automatic extension to file their taxes. Since the order is retroactive to September 19, eligible service members can expect a refund of taxes already paid and future withholding to stop.



# Defense Department Prepares to Reshape Workforce

The Department of Defense may soon face a difficult situation - possible base closings later in the decade. The tasks of culling civilian employees who no longer match changing priorities and replenishing the ranks at a time when many experienced workers are expected to be retiring.

Downsizing in the 1990s gave DOD an undersized workforce that could not complete work in some areas, such as acquisition, linguistics, scientific research and development, and technology. Since 1989, the number of full-time civil service employees at DOD has dropped 36 percent to just under 660,000 workers.

The 2002 Defense Authorization Act, currently awaiting President Bush's signature, includes provisions to help the Pentagon improve its personnel management, a move aimed at reshaping DOD's civilian workforce.

The act would allow DOD, in an effort to entice and retain employees, to pay eligible expenses of workers such as scientists, engineers, and health care personnel who are required to earn professional credentials. Eligible expenses would include the costs of licenses, exams to obtain credentials, and professional certifications.

The legislation would provide the Pentagon with ways to cushion staff reductions caused by contracting out, downsizing or agency realignments, and DOD could also offer cash buyouts to more workers than in previous years. Under the pending legislation, the agency could buy out 2,000 employees over fiscal year 2002, and 6,000 workers in FY 2003. The voluntary buyouts could be offered to workers taking early or regular retirements.

Additionally, the legislation would offer \$10,000 payments to private sector employers as an incentive to hire and retrain DOD employees who lose their jobs. To collect the \$10,000, a company would have to employ a defense hire for 12 months.

## Turbine Systems Technicians Needed at Sea

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Exciting incentives are being offered to encourage Sailors with the rate of Gas Turbine Systems Technicians (mechanical) (GSM) to stay at sea or return to sea duty -- incentives that can actually increase shore duty tour lengths following sea duty.

These incentives are being offered because of a manning imbalance that has too many GSMs currently serving ashore, and too few serving in ships. The plan leads to the opportunity to take advantage of the recently announced enhanced career sea pay (CSP) rates. "We have a shortfall in GSMs at sea right now and too many GSMs on shore duty," said Cmdr. Gary Grice, surface engineering enlisted community manager. "We've put these incentives together to increase the number of GSMs in the fleet, while giving volunteers an attractive rewards package."

Petty officers assigned to shore duty in the continental United States (CONUS) (type 1) or overseas (type 6), with greater than 12 months left on their tour, may volunteer to return to sea duty in CONUS (type 2) or overseas (type 4) for a three-year sea tour. This is significantly less than the usual 48- to 54-month sea tour for GSMs.

Upon completion of this shortened sea tour, GSMs will be reassigned to a

shore duty for a 42-month tour, which is six months longer than a standard GSM shore tour. Further, this assignment comes with a guaranteed choice of coast. Petty officers who are assigned to types 1 or 6 shore duty with less than 12 months remaining on their tour, are encouraged to return to sea duty early to complete a normal sea tour.

Those members will also be guaranteed a choice of coast for a follow-on shore tour. The most important advantage for these Sailors is the enhanced CSP, which offers a petty officer third class with four years of sea duty an 81 percent increase in CSP, for example. Sailors in pay grades E-4 through E-6, who are assigned to types 2 or 4 sea duty, are encouraged to request a projected rotation date (PRD) extension to remain on sea duty for an additional six or 12 months. Personnel who extend will be able to take advantage of the revised rules for CSP which extends the \$100 per month premium for more than 36 consecutive months of sea duty to seven years. Before the CSP enhancement, the premium was embedded in CSP after five year. While the GSM recruiting goal increased 65 percent for this fiscal year, Sailors in pay grades E-4 through E-6 are the focus of these incentives. "The mid-grade petty

officer is the backbone of any department, and especially so in engineering," said Lt. Cmdr. Matthew J. Bonner, chief engineer aboard *USS Leyte Gulf* (CG55). "They form the training teams and key space watch standers, and we need to keep them at sea without burning them out. I fully support the proposal and hope that it does achieve the desired impact."

In addition to enhanced CSP and revised tour lengths at sea and ashore, some Sailors are also eligible for the Overseas Tour Extension Incentive Program (OTIEP). GSMs assigned to type 4 duty are eligible for OTIEP options if they extend twelve months or more beyond their tour length.

The guidance on GSM at-sea manning encourages qualified Firemen, Seamen and Airmen to consider taking the GSM3 exam, and those in career reenlistment objective (CREO) group 3 ratings to convert to GSM.

For more information on sea duty incentives for GSMs, refer to NAVADMIN 294/01 at <http://www.bupers.navy.mil/>. To view the enhanced Career Sea Pay tables, go to <http://www.persnet.navy.mil/pers33/whatsnew.html>. For a complete list of CREO groups, visit NAVADMIN 304/01 at <http://www.bupers.navy.mil/>.

# MTMC Outsourcing Railroad Cars

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (USTCNS) --- The Military Traffic Management Command is outsourcing the management of its railroad cars. The administrative support functions associated with management of military-owned rail cars will now be accomplished with a private contractor. MTMC has signed a two-year contract with IntelliTrans, of Atlanta, to provide all car movements, tracking, maintenance management, repairs and records for the 2,200 railroad cars in the Defense Freight Railway Interchange Fleet.

The majority of the rolling stock is flatcars and tank cars. The more unique flatcars include 566 heavy-duty cars capable of carrying a pair of huge M-1 tanks. In addition, the railroad car inventory includes more than 200 special purpose units, such as depressed center cars and cabooses.

Military customers will benefit from the contract in another way. IntelliTrans will also track military customers' shipments aboard commercial railroad cars.

"This is another step toward leveraging commercial capabilities," said Maj. Gen. Kenneth L. Privratsky, commander. Outsourcing coordinator Tom Hicks agrees. "This is a big change," said Hicks. "We are outsourcing administrative support functions while acquiring rail traffic management tools that will allow us to manage more efficiently," said Hicks. "We will eliminate some government-unique information systems in the process. We will now have a single-information management system that will be used by both government and industry."

"We'll have greater management and visibility of our rail cars," added Hicks. "We are now going to be true traffic managers." MTMC will reduce the size of its management staff involved in rail operations.

The contract, signed Dec. 7, will run 24 months and will have three one-year renewable options. The 24-month contract base period is valued at \$1.9million. IntelliTrans will provide Department of Defense users and military customers with the following capabilities:

- \* Forecasting
- \* Car ordering
- \* Intransit visibility
- \* Data collection

"The system will provide MTMC overall near-real-time visibility of the rail procurement and execution process, and the ability to influence it," said Mark Metz, transportation planner. One of the big gains with the outsourcing will be managing rail car assets during a contingency, said Hicks. "The contract will greatly improve our ability to manage the surge requirements of a wartime scenario," said Hicks. "We will be better able to integrate Department of Defense rail cars and commercial rail cars. This will allow us to use them better."



## Navy Drug Labs to Triple ability to detect designer drug "Ecstasy"

The Navy has positioned itself at the forefront of American society in maintaining a drug-free workplace. Yet despite two decades of steady decline in drug use, Navy officials say ecstasy use in the ranks has increased over the past year and they are committed to reversing this disturbing trend.

Beginning in January, Navy drug screening labs will triple their abilities to detect the designer drug ecstasy. The new screening reagent is three times more sensitive than the current one and will be employed in all Department of Defense drug-screening labs, according to a recent NAVADMIN message (319/01).

For Navy experts combating the ecstasy problem, the new test is a welcomed addition. "More and better testing raises awareness levels, and that's the important thing," according to Rick Cates, program director for the Naval Station Pearl Harbor Counseling and Assistance Center.

Any detection and deterrence capability is a plus, Cates said, in battling the abuse of a drug now understood to be genuinely dangerous and possibly fatal. Sailors in today's highly complex, technological environment put themselves and their shipmates at risk from the effects -- and after effects -- of ecstasy.

Bill Flannery, Branch Head for the Navy's Drug Detection and Deterrence Office (PERS-6), said the reagent would expand the window of opportunity to detect ecstasy for another 24-to 48 hours. "We will continue to evolve the Navy's drug testing program with technology. This new reagent is the gold standard by which all other are compared," he said. In acknowledging that the new reagent could result in an increase of positive drug tests for ecstasy, the message reinforced senior leadership's commitment to a zero tolerance policy for drug use. The message urges leaders to warn Sailors about the increased detection capability to achieve a deterrent effect, and encouraged individual commands to sharpen their prevention programs.

The message highlighted efforts by PERS-6 as a resource for commands to refer to in enhancing their drug use prevention efforts. The PERS-6 Web site contains a variety of drug prevention tools.



## Education Loan Relief Possible For Some

Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who are taking up the task of defending their country may be eligible for education loan relief, according to Ron Paige, U.S. Education Secretary. "The young men and women who serve our country have an enormous job to do in the coming months," Paige said. "The actions we are taking today will ease their financial burdens as they defend our country in these challenging times." These actions apply to members of the National Guard and the Armed Forces Ready Reserve who have been called to active duty. The department's guidance applies to student loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan, William D. Ford Loan or Federal Perkins Loan programs. Under the department's guidance, lenders will automatically postpone student loan payments of borrowers during the period of the borrower's active duty service. Borrowers with subsidized student loans will be eligible to have the federal government assume interest payments on their loans while they are serve on military duty.

For those called to active duty whose loans are not yet in repayment because they are current students or recently left school and in a grace period, the department has directed lenders to hold their loans in the current deferment status. Borrowers will not be required to

make payments to lenders during the term of their military service, as well as for a reasonable amount of time allowing the borrower to resume enrollment in school. In addition, borrowers generally receive a six-to-nine month grace period after leaving school. The department's action ensures these students will not lose the benefit of this grace period as a result of their service.

In additional guidance, the department strongly encouraged colleges and universities to provide both a full refund of tuition and other institutional charges or comparable credit to students forced to withdraw from school to fulfill their military obligations. The department also urged schools to offer flexible re-enrollment options to these affected students and to other students who have been forced to withdraw from school as a result of the terrorist attacks. The department's actions also relax requirements that schools return federal financial aid to the government when a student aid recipient withdraws from school. Students who withdraw because they are called to active duty or have been affected by the military mobilization, as well as others who withdraw as a direct result of the terrorist attacks, will not be required to return financial aid funds received for books and living expenses. For more information, call (800) 433-3243.

## NEX Little Creek expanding to better serve customers

NEXCOM Public Affairs - Navy Exchange Little Creek recently held the groundbreaking ceremony for its new 153,000 square foot store. "This new store will be a virtual one-stop shopping center for our customers," said Cheryl Acampora, general manager at Navy Exchange Little Creek.

**"The new store won't have a typical mall-type layout where services are separated from the main store,"**

The new store will have an expanded clothing department and lawn and garden shop, a flower shop, optical shop, barber/beauty shop, personalized services, General Nutrition Store, photo processing, and the package store. The store will continue to offer massage therapy through its beauty shop.

"The new store won't have a typical mall-type layout where services are separated from the main store," said Acampora. "Everything is in one location and under one roof. It should make our customers' shopping experience much easier." The two-story store will house a food court with Dunkin Donuts, Subway, Sbarro Express, Manchu Wok, and Fresh Grill/ Carvery with both inside and outside seating. An ATM machine will also be available as well as additional parking spaces in the parking lot. The store will have an elevator and escalators to accommodate all customers. The existing 100,000 square foot Navy Exchange will be converted into a larger furniture/appliance store; an expanded uniform shop; a tailor shop; and a laundry/dry cleaning operation. There will also be a small barbershop for customers living in barracks. The current Navy Exchange will not be closed during the renovation. The new store is expected to open in spring 2003. For more info, contact [kristine\\_sturkie@nexnet.navy.mil](mailto:kristine_sturkie@nexnet.navy.mil).

## New Flag Officer Assignments Announced

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark announced the following assignments:

- Rear Adm. (selectee) Curtis A. Kemp is being assigned as president, Board of Inspection and Survey. Kemp is currently serving as commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group 2.
- Rear Adm. (selectee) Joseph A. Sestak, Jr., is being assigned as commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group 2. Sestak is currently assigned as director, Naval Operations Group, N3/N5, OPNAV.
- Rear Adm. (lower half) David M. Crocker is being Assigned as commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force. Crocker is current assigned as assistant chief of staff for plans and policy, Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic.
- Rear Adm. (lower half) (selectee) Christopher C. Ames is being assigned as director for plans and policy, J5, U.S. Transportation Command. Ames is currently assigned as commander, Amphibious Squadron 3.

# FISC Norfolk Key Telephone Numbers

	DSN		Telephone	FAX
Commanding Officer	646	(757)	443-1001	443-1000
Executive Officer	646	(757)	443-1001	443-1000
Executive Director	646	(757)	443-1001	443-1000
Public Affairs Officer	646	(757)	443-1013	443-1015
Small Business Office	646	(757)	443-1435	443-1355
Security Officer	646	(757)	443-1510	443-1537
Counsel	646	(757)	443-1092	443-1090
Reserve Coordinator	646	(757)	443-1012	443-1549
Command Master Chief	646	(757)	443-1153	443-1015
<b>Acquisition</b>				
Acquisition Executive	646	(757)	443-1601	443-1605
Operations Director	646	(757)	443-1628	443-1605
Contract Ops (Fleet)	646	(757)	443-1375	443-1424
Contract Ops (Ashore)	646	(757)	443-1347	443-1424
Pierside Purchasing	646	(757)	443-1369	443-1376
Purchasing Ops (Ashore/Overseas)	646	(757)	443-1370	444-1376
Purchasing Ops (CONUS)	646	(757)	443-1394	443-1389
Purchasing Ops (Habitability)	646	(757)	443-1444	443-4417
<b>Comptroller</b>				
Director	646	(757)	443-1565	443-1883
<b>Business Operations</b>				
Director	646	(757)	443-1075	443-1064
E-Business	646	(757)	443-1502	443-1543
<b>Customer Operations</b>				
Director	646	(757)	443-1165	443-1175
Logistic Support Center	646	(757)	443-1211	443-1175
Navy Integrated Call Center	1-877-418-6824			443-1175
<b>Material Operations</b>				
Requirements Division	646	(757)	443-1271	443-1277
Ocean Terminal	564	(757)	444-2395	444-2352
ATAC	565	(757)	444-2060	445-8607
Personal Property	646	(757)	443-3795	443-3737
SERVMART	646	(757)	443-1273	443-1293
HAZMAT	564	(757)	444-5809	443-1293
Regional Navy Mail Center	564	(757)	444-9126	444-9796
<b>Fuel</b>				
Fuels Officer	262	(757)	322-9003	322-9005
<b>Cheathan Annex</b>	953	(757)	877-7100	887-7223
<b>Washington, DC Det</b>	288	(202)	433-2901	6850000
<b>Philadelphia Det</b>	442	(215)	697-9550	697-9554
<b>Earle Det</b>	449	(732)	866-2238	866-1106